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From

The President of University of La Réunion

To

Partners of the INTERREG-funded
research program PaTRIM-OI

Subject: Engagement letter following funding the PaTRIM-OI research program

Dear Partners,

I am pleased to confirm that the PaTRIM-OI research program was funded by the European Commission through its funding instrument, INTERREG V 2014-2020. This instrument is managed directly by regional governing authorities and is meant to foster cooperation on a regional level with countries and territories neighboring European regions. As one of eight ultra-peripheral regions, La Réunion is proud to be at the cutting edge of such cooperation.

As a result, it is a great honor to commit our involvement with you in the present project on behalf of University of La Réunion and the research laboratories managing the program, OIES and LCF. Please find hereafter a description of the PaTRIM-OI research program, and what it entails regarding our mutual research activities in the next two years.

**PaTRIM-OI - Cultural heritage in the Indian Ocean, from global to local :
Tanzania, Reunion, India, Mauritius**

Funding agency: European Commission

Funding instrument: INTERREG Research Program

Funding reference: Région Réunion - GUIDDE/2020-2671-0028008

Funding direct beneficiary: University of La Réunion

Managing research laboratories: OIES-EA12, LCF-EA 7390

Scientific Coordinators: Assoc. Prof. Béatrice Moppert, PhD ; Assoc. Prof. Fabrice Folio,
PhD ; Prof. Telesphore Brou, PhD ; Prof. Carpanin Marimoutou, PhD

Background

This INTERREG project focuses on the knowledge, inventory, preservation and enhancement of cultural heritage in the Indian Ocean area. It is led by geographers from the University of Reunion Island, members of the OIES (Indian Ocean: Spaces and Societies) research unit, as well as literature researchers from the LCF (Research Laboratory on Creole and Francophone spaces) research unit.

The Program is research-action oriented. The scientific approach is therefore enhanced with an initial theoretical corpus, analytical fieldwork and concrete final applications, drawing up a structuring project.

Our approach is based on a twofold observation:

- a) Heritage is an essential social need;
- b) The evolution of the notion of heritage broadens and increases the potential for recognition of heritage objects.

In this context, in line with this call for projects, we wish to highlight accurately the links between local and more affinity and/or community-based cultural heritage and global heritage (such as UNESCO places) in the Indian Ocean area.

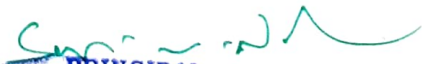
As the Indian Ocean has been for a very long time an area of passage and migration, this research will thus make it possible to refine knowledge on what constitutes heritage but also what is rejected as such, depending on whether one is confronted with the spaces of departure or the spaces of arrival. We will use a contrastive and comparative approach,

Geographical coherence and historical consistency

The fieldwork remains, in general, still rather little treated and yet it is very rich in lessons. It can be broken down as follows (PaTRIM-OI):

- Reunion Island and Mauritius, island areas, both members of the Indian Ocean Community (IOC);
- Tanzania and India, territories outside the IOC in the Great Indian Ocean, also chosen here as coastal States.

Historical coherence is understood through two major areas of origin of the migratory waves towards the islands of the south-western Indian Ocean, each associated with a major historical sequence: the slave trade and slavery (here with the coast of Tanzania as a reference area, although it was not the only one), and indentured labor or subcontracted work (the flagship area here being India, although here too the historical process cannot be only reduced to it).


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Scientific actions and methods

Action 1: Inventory, choice and typology of objects and sites

The inventory of heritage objects will be carried out in an exhaustive manner in the various fields studied with regard to official international or national recognition (Unesco, Archeological Survey of India, Cities of Art and History...).

The identification of lesser known or unrecognized objects-places will be the subject of a choice based on conditions of comparability and according to a justified subjective selection (historical, scientific and spatial coherence...).

Action 2: Comparative and critical analysis of the stakes of cultural heritage sites

The analysis aims to put into perspective the dynamics of cross-patrimonialisation of emblematic cultural landscapes and to identify their different stakes: political, economic, identity and territorial.

Based on pre-identified case studies, the synthetic research will focus on :

- A common methodology for the different sites: interview guide, survey questionnaires, field surveys, collection of audio and/or video testimony,
- A synthetic restitution using the hypothetico-deductive approach

Action 3: Promotion of the Intangible Heritage of the Indian Ocean area

The analysis aims, starting with texts, speeches and objects-places related to the history of slavery and indentured labor, to popularize and make better known to the general public the wealth of intangible heritage resulting from fieldwork.

The approach will also propose to work on other intangible materials such as culinary or musical aspects and see the crossbreeding and transformations in the indian ocean area.

Partners

Tagore Government College of Arts and Sciences	Pondichéry, Inde	Sasi Kanta Das.
Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Sciences	Goa, Inde	N. Sawant PS. Rahul
University of Mauritius	Rédout, Mauritius	V. Ballgobin R. Sultan T. Ramessur
Université of Dar es-Salaam	Dar es-Salaam, Tanzania	E. C. Lyaya P. Mwanukuzi
Université of Zanzibar	Zanzibar, Tanzania	A. Rashid Mkumbukwa


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Deliverables

- Digitized illustrated corpus (photo gallery) with descriptive comments.
- Cartographic and descriptive database
- Scientific articles (5) on all or part of the identified objects-places
- Multimedia documents (small item video)
- Iconographic exhibition on the sites covered
- Live show on the Narlgon (also called Tamil bal) and compared with the Terrukutu from Pondicherry.
- Publication of the proceedings of the final symposium

Beneficiaries of the results

- Visibility at the scale of the Indian Oceanic zone; enhancement of heritage and potential for tourism; training and awareness raising of students and more broadly of the creole society of Reunion. For partner countries: development of international exchanges in the area; knowledge and enhancement of heritage; interculturality.

Calendar

This project has a duration of 2 years (July 2020 to June 2023)

Field session in the different countries are scheduled as follows (subject to the evolution of the health context):

- Launch meeting in Mauritius; 1 week in November 2021
- Field work and seminar in Tanzania and Zanzibar: 2 weeks in August 2022
- Field work and seminar in India: 2 weeks in January 2023
- Final meeting in Reunion: 1 week in June 2023.

Yours faithfully,

Frédéric MIRANVILLE, President

Le Président de l'Université de la Réunion

Pr Frédéric MIRANVILLE


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Dr. Bharti Arora
21, Ground Floor, M.G.R Street
Raman Nagar, Lawspet
Pondicherry 605008
India

12 October 2021

Dear Dr Arora

Charles Wallace India Trust (CWIT) Visiting Fellowship 2021 – 2022 at the Institute of Advanced Studies in the Humanities (IASH), University of Edinburgh

Congratulations! I am delighted that you have been selected for the Charles Wallace India Trust IASH fellowship and that you are planning to be in Edinburgh from January - April 2022.

I am writing to confirm the terms of the offer. As you will know, CWIT will give you a monthly stipend of £1,400 to cover accommodation costs and all other living expenses, for the duration of the fellowship i.e four months. This stipend is payable through the IASH. We will also contribute £600 towards the cost of your international flight (the actual cost may be higher or lower).

Please note that CWIT will not be able to offer you any additional funding to that set out in this letter. It is your responsibility to plan in advance and ensure that you have sufficient funds to cover all of your living and other necessary expenses e.g PCR Covid tests, for the entirety of your stay in the UK.

Please also note that by accepting this offer, you agree that CWIT does not owe you a duty of care of any kind, and in particular, though not limited to, in cases of emergency, accident, injury or illness, should any occur to you during your stay in the UK. To that extent, we would advise that, prior to your arrival in the UK, you ensure that you have the necessary means to undertake your research in the UK for the entirety of its duration and have taken out all necessary insurance policies, including health insurance and travel insurance.

We further advise that, due to the COVID19 global pandemic, you stay informed as to the current situation in the UK and make sure that, prior to your arrival, you are aware of any relevant risks, travel restrictions, and/or changes to your fellowship programme, as applicable at the time.

The conditions of the fellowship grant are that:

- you must conform to the rules and regulations of the IASH and the University of Edinburgh
- you must write a brief report (maximum 3 or 4 pages of A4 paper), for the CWIT trustees within two months of completing your fellowship and returning to India.

If you wish to accept our offer and the grant conditions, please sign (on page 2), scan a copy of this letter, and then email it to me ASAP.